

ARCHDEACONRY OF WAITOTARA

ISSUE 27

MARCH 2024

Brendan Gibbs, Missioner for South Taranaki

Easter marks a moment in time when God raised the lifeless body of Jesus from death to life, thus vindicating all that Jesus taught and did in his earthly ministry.

His ministry was one of inclusion, not only of women (so prominent in the Easter story), but also of Gentiles (non-Jews) and persons regarded by the majority as sinners.

The tendency exists for people to divide the world up along racial, ethnic, and gender lines and more. Some of that is inevitable and can be for good purposes. But there is a downside to it too. The divisions that people make between the respectable and the disgraceful, the good and the bad, or saints and sinners can be particularly troublesome. Such judgments are often unfair.

The problem that Jesus faced was that some people were written off as sinners, because they did not measure up to standards that those who thought of themselves as righteous had set up. They were therefore to be avoided.

Jesus sought to break down the false barriers and became a friend of those considered to be sinners. Respect for all, and a welcome for all, is the legacy that Jesus has given to his church.

Easter can be a significant time for anyone and everyone.

Significant because it reminds us that our relationship with God has been renewed because of his abundant grace and his full forgiveness of all our past and future hurts, for any wrong doing, given or received.

If nothing else Easter is a time for us to renew, reignite and grow in our relationship with our creator God. It can be a time to

St Mary's Anglican Church, Hawera
Wesley Methodist Church, Hawera
St Luke's Co-operating Church, Patea
St George's Anglican Church, Patea
Church of the Good Shepherd, Waverley
Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Stratford
All Saints' Anglican Church, Eltham
St Barnabas' Anglican Church, Opunake
St John's Community Church, Kaponga
Robert Gibson Chapel, Manaia

bring back some form of balance to our lives. Especially for anyone feeling isolated, left out, abandoned, lonely or out of sync with where you feel you should be.

This unusual feeling can be a time when our spiritual life has become neglected, or ignored completely. Because we are all made in the image of God, we all have a spiritual part to our lives.

At Easter the church welcomes back those who may feel “left out” for whatever reason, or those who are trying to get some balance back into their lives.

This next story describes that need for balance.

The 5 balls of life

Brian Dyson, former Vice Chairman of Coca Cola, delivered this address to the company. In it he said, 'Imagine life as a game in which you are juggling five balls in the air. You name them; work, family, health, friends and spirit. You will soon understand that work is a rubber ball. If you drop it, it will bounce back. But the other four balls; family, health, friends and spirit, are made of glass.

If you drop any of these they will be irrevocably scuffed, marked, nicked, damaged or even shattered. They will never be the same. You must understand that and strive for balance in your life.'

Many of the people we admire are out of balance; they can build great companies, but not great relationships.

In what areas are you out of balance?

In your quest **not to drop** the ball in your public performance, make sure you don't drop it in your personal life; where it counts most.

The Bible underlines it: 'add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love... he who lacks these things is short-sighted... ' (2 Peter 1:5-9).

We look forward to seeing you this Easter.

Brendan Gibbs

Missioner for South Taranaki

FROM THE BISHOP



Announcement

The Venerable Lance Pilbrow has been appointed
the new Archdeacon for Waitotara.

(more details to come)

News from around the Archdeaconry



Church Out and About Again!

It's been over two years since the war in Ukraine started. Twice before we have turned our minds and efforts to raising money for the families of Ukraine.

With the situation continuing, I'm asking you to join me again in putting together a **baking stall** at the **Hawera Saturday Market** on **6 April** for these families.

Please leave baking at St Mary's Church the Friday 5th April (9am-3pm) or drop it to me, Pip, at 46 Tawa Street, Hawera. Or I can come and pick it up!

Pancakes on Shrove Tuesday at St Mary's Hawera.

12 people including 2 visitors from Kamloops, Canada shared pancakes, a range of toppings and good conversations.



Katherine & David May at All Saints' Eltham in February in front of the Mothers' Union banner (with Karen Christian).

The Mays were visiting from the Diocese of Lichfield UK where Katherine has a key role in the Mothers' Union. They were keen to view the Mary Sumner Stained Glass window at All Saints'. We understand that this is the only one in NZ. (The Mothers' Union was founded in 1876 by Mary Sumner).



Diocese of Waikato and Taranaki



There have been a few changes recently. A new logo, a revamped website—waikatotaranakianglicans.nz Well worth a visit. An online message from Bishop Phillip can be found there in the March Connected Diocesan Newsletter.



The Diocesan Database has changed. They are now partnering with a New Zealand based software company. As much of the information held is out of date, please go to the link mentioned in the Connected newsletter and fill in the online form.

Concerts coming up in Hawera:

**The Hawera Memorial Theatre Trust presents “Stage & Screen”
(featuring The Theatre Trust Singers)**

Saturday 23 March 7:30pm and Sunday 24 March 2pm.

\$25 adults/ \$10 Children Book at iticket.com. or iSite Hawera

Hawera Brass presents “Hymn Fest”

Saturday 13 April 7:30 pm at St Mary’s Church, Hawera

\$10 entry (fundraising for National Brass Band Contest)





This Year NZ Anglican Missions are supporting projects
in Uganda and The Middle East

- ♦ **Rwenzori Special Needs Foundation** in Uganda by providing nutrition outcomes to the parents and children.
- ♦ **The Al Ahli Hospital in Gaza**, supported by the Diocese of Jerusalem and donations from Anglicans around the world to be able to continue its humanitarian response.

For more information or to donate visit

www.anglicanmissions.org.nz/lent



**Monday 25 March
to
Sunday 31 March
2024**

Holy Week

Hawera (St Mary's)

Thursday, 7:30pm Maundy Thursday Service

Good Friday, 9:30am "Walk of Witness" Hawera Combined Churches starting at Wesley and finishing at St Mary's

Saturday, 7:30pm Service of Light and Renewal of Baptismal Vows

Easter Day, 8am Traditional Holy Communion Service

10am All age Service with Holy Communion.

Eltham (All Saints')

Wednesday, 10am Holy Communion Service

Thursday, 6:30pm Passover Meal—call Jill for booking 027 384 8766

Easter Day, 9am Holy Communion

Stratford (Holy Trinity)

Tuesday, 7:30pm Tenebrae Service

Good Friday—Walk of Witness starts 9:30am at Holy Trinity Church

Easter Day, 10:30am Holy Communion Service

Opunake (St Barnabas)

Good Friday—Walk of Witness 9am from the Cenotaph.

Easter Day, 10am Holy Communion Service

Waverley/Patea

Please consider attending services at St Mary's, Hawera

Kaponga

Good Friday, 10am at St Patrick's Church

Easter Day 10:30am Communion Service at St John's Community Church

April 2024 Services Roster

	Sunday 7 April	Sunday 14 April	Sunday 21 April	Sunday 28 April
Holy Trinity, Stratford 10:30am	C Hunn HC	P Bowers-Mason HC	Lay Preacher P Bowers-Mason HC	P Bowers-Mason HC
All Saints, Elitham 9am	W Bowers-Mason HC	P Bowers-Mason HC	Lay Preacher P Bowers-Mason HC	P Bowers-Mason HC
Manaia Methodist 10am			W Bowers-Mason HC	
Kaponga Community Church 10:30am	P Bowers-Mason HC	Own arrangements	Own Arrangements	Own Arrangements
St Barnabas, Opunake 10am	Own Arrangements	Own Arrangements	Own Arrangements	P Barleyman HC
St Mary's, Hawera 10am	8am P Scaife HC 10am B Gibbs HC	To Wesley	St George's Day Service 10am	To Wesley
Wesley Methodist 10am	To St Mary's	S Misikei		J Mudavanhu C
St Luke's, Patea 10am	T Anaru C	To Waverley	St George's Church, Patea	To Waverley
St Georges, Patea 10am	To St Luke's	To Waverley		To Waverley
Church of Good Shep, Waverley 10am	To St Luke's	R Smith	R Smith HC	TBC

Please check the website for any changes to the service schedule

www.anglicanswaitotara.org.nz

Mid-Week Services Roster

	Wed 3 April	Wed 10 April	Wed 17 April	Wed 224 April
Holy Trinity Stratford 10am	C Hunn To Stratford	To Eltham W Bowers-Mason	C Hunn To Stratford	To Eltham W Bowers-Mason
All Saints Eltham 10am	Thurs 4 April P Scaife	Thurs 11 April B Gibbs	Thurs 18 April P Scaife	Thurs 25 April TBC
St Mary's Hawera 10am				

Contact Us

If you have news to share
please contact us.

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